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Congress of the United States

**House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1802**

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I am pleased to announce the 2010 Congressional Art Competition for the students of Louisiana's Second Congressional District. This year's theme is "Triumph from Despair." The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982, and, since then, over 650,000 high school students have participated. It is a nationwide event enabling high schools to showcase their artistic ability. The artwork of the winner from each Congressional District will be hung in the U.S. Capitol.

As we approach the five-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, I am reflective, not so much of the unprecedented damage that wreaked havoc on the innocent, but on the power of the human spirit. This spirit is evident in every citizen as we returned to rebuild in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. This is the spirit we carry as we continue to rebuild our homes and businesses and jumpstart our communities.

I encourage your students to enter the competition. The first place winning artwork will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol. The "Grand Prize" winner will also receive two round-trip tickets to Washington, D.C. to attend a ribbon-cutting and will be eligible for a scholarship to the Savannah College of Art and Design. Other prizes will be awarded to finalists.

I am honored to offer this opportunity to high school students from Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. The winners will be announced at a Congressional Arts-in-Education Forum in New Orleans sometime this spring. The event host will be contacting you and your students with the event details.

Entries must be received by **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**. Artwork may be submitted to my New Orleans district office located at 4640 Carrollton Ave, Suite 120, during business hours (8:30am to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jennifer Vu at jennifer.vu@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-6636.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anh Joseph Cao".

Anh "Joseph" Cao
Member of Congress